

Remarks

We trust that the examiner will now find this application to be in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the final rejection of claims 6 - 8 is respectfully requested.


The present invention relates to a method of making packages having slider operated zippers in which a chain of zipper bearing packages is provided onto which, for each package, a slider is inserted onto the zipper. That is, the sliders are inserted package by package as distinct from being attached to the package film during the bag making process.

The claims stand rejected under 35 USC 103 over Lems or Sanborn in view of Thieman or Laguerre. It is respectfully submitted that these references, as combined by the examiner neither teach nor suggest the present invention. Lems teaches a chain of sliderless-zipper bags. There is nothing to suggest placing sliders on the zipper much less placing sliders on the zipper after the packages are formed and while they are linked together. Sanborn is even further removed.

The Thieman and Laguerre references both related to attaching sliders to zippered film not to completed bags. Combining the references as suggested by the examiner at most suggests attaching sliders to zippered film and then forming a chain of bags from the film but not first forming a chain of bags and then attaching a slider to the zipper of each bag of the chain. In this connection it is also noted that the sliders of both Thieman and Laguerre both require that the zipper be disengaged to permit insertion of separator (separator 60 of Thieman and median partition 17 of Laguerre) between the profiles. Thus, neither of these arrangements could work with either Lems or Sanborn as suggested by the examiner in which the profiles are engaged throughout the bag making process.

The claims have been amended to emphasize that the package has a slider operated zipper. Also, the examiner will note that a terminal disclaimer is enclosed to overcome the double patenting rejection. In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the application as amended herein is now in condition for allowance. A relatively early notification of allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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APPENDIX

Claim 6 (Amended). A method of making packages having [slide] slider operated zippers, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a supply of a series of concatenated packages, each of said packages having a slider operable reclosable zipper;

providing a supply of sliders, each of said sliders being insertable on to said reclosable zipper and adapted to open and close said reclosable zipper as said slider is moved along said reclosable zipper in opening and closing directions, respectively; and

for each of said packages, removing a slider from said slider supply and inserting said slider on to said reclosable zipper.